

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Yasuo Inohana et al. Confirmation No.:
Serial No. : 10/667,709
Filed : September 22, 2003
TC/A.U. :
Examiner :

Docket No. : 03-591
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

- (1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 63-35761 (published on February 16, 1988). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.
- (2) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 61-130478 (published on June 18, 1986). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.
- (3) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2002-275563 (published on September 25, 2002). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.

- (4) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-294957 (published on October 26, 2001). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.
- (5) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-303159 (published on October 31, 2001). The document is in Japanese; however an English abstract is attached hereto.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

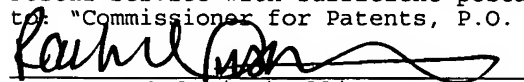
Yasuo Inohana et al.

By

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Date: March 24, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on March 24, 2004.


Rachel Piscitelli

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
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| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/667,709 |
| Filing Date | |
| First Named Inventor | Yasuo Inohana et al. |
| Group Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 03-591 |

[illegible][illegible]Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Attorney Docket Number

03-591

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